	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	10/646,646	CLARK ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jean M Corrielus	2162	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to _Supplemental IDS filed on February 9, 2006_.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are _1 and 4-19 renumbered as 1-17_.

3. ☒ The drawings filed on _25 May 2005_ are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☒ None of the:
        1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the
           International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
        Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)
1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _2/9/06_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____ .

JEAN M CORRIELUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This office action is in response to the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

filed on February 09, 2006, in which claims 1 and 4-19 are presented for further examination.

Information Disclosure Statement

2.   The information disclosure statement (IDS) filed on February 09, 2006 complies with the

provisions of M.P.E.P 609. It has been placed in the application file. The information referred to

therein has been considered as to the merits.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee.

        Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with

Jonathan M. Waldman on June 20, 2003, Reg. No. 40861.

        The application has been amended as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) A storage platform <u>implemented in a computer system for organizing,</u> <u>searching and sharing data,</u> comprising:

    a database engine;

    a data store implemented on the database engine for storing data therein, wherein the data store implements a data model, supports organization, searching, sharing, synchronization, and security of data stored in the data store and wherein specific types of data are described in schemas, <u>wherein the storage platform provides a mechanism to extend the schemas to define a</u> <u>new type of data;</u>

    an application programming interface that enables application programs to access <u>all of the</u> services and capabilities of the storage platform and to access the data described in the schemas; <u>and</u>

    <u>a set of schemas that define different types of items, elements, and relationships, wherein</u> <u>the application programming interface comprises a class for each of the different type of items,</u> <u>elements, and relationships defined in the set of schemas</u>, wherein the storage platform supports interoperability with existing file systems, enables users and systems to synchronize data stored in different instances of the data store, and provides the ability for application programs to be notified about and to track changes made to the data in the data store, <u>wherein data in the data</u> <u>store is defined in terms of items, elements, and relationships, wherein each item is a unit of data</u> <u>storable in the data store and comprises one or more elements, an element is an instance of a type</u> <u>comprising one or more fields, and a relationship is a link between at least two items.</u>

2.   (Deleted).

3. (Deleted).

4. (Currently Amended) The storage platform recited in claim 1, wherein data also stores in the

data store in the form of an extension to an existing item type, and wherein the application

programming interface comprises a class for each different item extension.

5. (Currently Amended) The storage platform recited in claim 1, wherein the class for each type

of item, element, and relationship is generated automatically based on the set of schemas that

define each type of item, element, and relationship.

6. (Currently Amended) The storage platform recited in claim 1, wherein the classes for each

type of item, element, and relationship define a set of data classes, and wherein the application

programming interface further comprises a second set of classes that define a common set of

behaviors for the data classes.

7. (Original) The storage platform recited in claim 6, wherein the second set of classes

comprise a first class that represents a storage platform scope and that provides the context for

queries on the data store and a second class the represents the results of a query on the data store.

8.   (Currently Amended) The storage platform recited in claim 1, wherein the different types of items, elements, and relationships in the data store are implemented in the database engine as user-defined types (UDT).

9.   (Original) The storage platform recited in claim 8, wherein the application programming interface provides a query model that enables application programmers to form queries based on various properties of the items in the data store, in a manner that insulates the application programmer from the details of the query language of the database engine.

10. (Currently Amended) The storage platform recited in claim 1, wherein a plurality of items in the data store may comprise an Item Folder and at least one other item that is a member of the Item Folder.

11. (Currently Amended) The storage platform recited in claim 1, wherein a plurality of items in the data store may comprise a Category and at least one other item that is a member of said Category.

12. (Currently Amended) The storage platform recited in claim 1, wherein said relationship between two items is established automatically by a hardware or software interface system.

13. (Currently Amended) The storage platform recited in claim 1, wherein said element is understandable by a hardware or software interface system.

14. (Currently Amended) The storage platform recited in claim 1, wherein said relationship comprises an element.

15. (Currently Amended) The storage platform recited in claim 1, wherein said set of schemas comprises a Core Schema that defines a set of Core Items by which the storage platform understands and directly processes said set of Core Items in a predetermined.

16. (Original) The storage platform recited in claim 15, wherein each type of item defined in the set of Core Items is derived from a single common base item.

17. (Original) The storage platform recited in claim 16, wherein said single common base item is a foundational item in a base schema.

18. (Original) The storage platform recited in claim 1, wherein said database engine comprises a relational database engine.

19. (Currently Amended) The storage platform recited in claim 18, wherein said relational database engine comprises object relational extensions.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1 and 4-19 are allowable in light of the examiner's amendment, in the light prior art made of record and in light of the Applicant's arguments.

Reasons for Indicating Allowable Subject Matter

5.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Upon searching a

variety of databases, the examiner respectfully submits that --a set of schemas that define

different types of items, elements, and relationships, wherein the application programming

interface comprises a class for each of the different type of items, elements, and relationships

defined in the set of schemas, wherein the storage platform supports interoperability with

existing file systems, enables users and systems to synchronize data stored in different instances

of the data store, and provides the ability for application programs to be notified about and to

track changes made to the data in the data store, wherein data in the data store is defined in terms

of items, elements, and relationships, wherein each item is a unit of data storable in the data store

and comprises one or more elements, an element is an instance of a type comprising one or more

fields, and a relationship is a link between at least two items-- in conjunction with all other

limitations of the dependent claims not taught nor suggested by the prior art of record (PTO-892

and 1449). Therefore, all pending claims 1 and 4-19 is hereby allowed.

6.   Since allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant is encouraged to submit

formal drawings in response to this Office action, *only if formal drawings have not yet*

submitted. The early submission of formal drawings will permit the Office to review the

drawings for acceptability and to resolve any informalities remaining therein before the

application is passed to issue. This will avoid possible delays in the issue process.

          Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

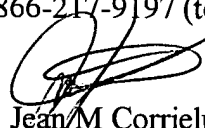fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for

Allowance".

Conclusion

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Jean M Corrielus whose telephone number is (571) 272-4032.

The examiner can normally be reached on 10 hours shift.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jean M Corrielus
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2162

February 20, 2006